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Message Text

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47
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 /054 W
---------- 080153
O R 211740Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5275
INFO DIA
USMISSION NATO
AMCONGEN MILAN
AMCONGEN NAPLES
USCINCEUR VAIGINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 1033

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:PINT, IT
SUBJECT: THE GOVERNMENT CRISIS: VIEWS OF PSDI LEADER CARIGLIA

REF: ROME 1032

1. IN SAME CONVERSATIONS WITH DCM AND EMBOFF (REFTEL) CARIGLIA DESCRIBED RESULTS OF PSDI DELEGATION MEETING THIS MORNING (JANUARY 20) WITH MORO. (CARIGLIA IS A MEMBER PF PSDI DELEGATION.) THE MEETING WAS PRIMARILY INTERLOCUTORY. PSDI REAFFIRMED ITS OPPOSITION TO EARLY ELECTIONS NOW, AND URGED FORMATION OF THREE-PARTY (DC-PSDI-PRI) GOVERNMENT WITH FIRM PSI EXTERNAL SUPPORT. MORO MERELY GAVE A RUNDOWN ON POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING EARLY ELECTIONS, BUT SAID THAT HIS OWN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT PARTY WOULD NOT ACCEPT A PSI-DC BIPARTY GOVENMENT. CARIGLIA COMMENTED THAT THE MOST ANYONE CAN REASONABLY EXPECT OF PSI IS EXTERNAL SUPPORT, AND THAT NONE OF THE OTHER CENTER-LEFT PARTIES WILL FORM A GOVERNMENT WITHOUT IT.

2. CARIGLIA WENT ON TO SAY THAT ELECTIONS NOW WOULD
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BE A DISASTER BECAUSE THE DC SIMPLY ISN'T READY. IT

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HAS YET TO ADOPT A CLEAR LINE THE ELECTORATE COULD
UNDERSTAND, OR NEW LEADERS WHICH WOULD GIVE IT CREDIBILITY.

3. NEVERTHELESS, CARIGLIA FEELS MORO AND DC ARE MANEUVER-
ING TOWARD THE OPTION OF MAKING EARLY ELECTIONS INEVITABLE,
WITH PUBLIC BLAME FIXED ON THE SOCIALISTS. THE ONLY TIME
THE PARTY UNITES, HE SAID, IS IN ANTICIPATION OF ELECTIONS.
NOW IT IS BEGINNING TO DO SO. FURTHERMORE, HE CAN SEE NO OTHER
INTERPRETATION FOR THE ELASTIC MANDATE GIVEN MORO BY PRESIDENT
LEONE, AND THE DC'S TOTAL SUPPORT FOR MORO. IN VIEW OF HOW
CRISIS CAME ABOUT, MORO IS THE MAN THE SOCIALISTS HAVE THE MOST
TROUBLE ACCEPTING AS LEADER OF A NEW GOVERNMENT.VOLPE

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To: STATE
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